



Minutes of April 2021 NCWSS Board of Directors Meeting

Date: April 30, 2021

Place: Zoom meeting

Time: 12 to 2.30 pm central time

Roll Call:

Officer	Name	Roll Call
President	Harlene Hatterman-Valenti	X
President Elect	Reid Smeda	X
Vice President	David Simpson	X
Secretary-Treasurer	Amit Jhala	X
Editor-NCWSS Proceedings	Joe Wuerffel	X
Editor- Communication/Newsletter	Joe Ikley	X
WSSA Representative	Brett Miller	
CAST Representative	John Hinz	X
Past President	Stott Howard	X
Executive Secretary	Kelley Mazur	X
Director of Science Policy	Lee Van Wychen	X
Strategic Planning	Sarah Lancaster	X
Extension	Nick Arneson	X
Industry	Lowell Sandell	X
Resident Education	Devin Hammer	X
Graduate Student	Ednaldo Borgato	X
Central Region	Dan Smith	X
Western Region	Trevor Israel	X
Eastern Region	Erin Haramoto	X

Communications /Newsletter Editor – Joe Ikley

- Update/discussion about 2021 NCWSS Student Weed Contest at NDSU
Discussion: Some university students will be able to travel; however, there are uncertainties due to Covid-19. If we cancel the contest now, the hotel penalty will be about 50% (\$13,000). If we cancel by June 20, 100% penalty (\$25,000). 95 rooms have been reserved: \$92 per room.
John Hinz passed a motion to conduct 2021 NCWSS Student Weed Contest; Joe second; motion passed. 2021 NCWSS Student Weed Contest will be organized at NDSU during July 28-29.
Action: Joe Ikley will follow up with the coaches and industry volunteers. Timeline for registration will be most likely June 4, 2021. Information will be shared by e-mail and on NCWSS webpage.

Past President- Stott Howard

- Proposal from NCWSS distinguished achievement awards (DAA) committee and Fellow committee to move the announcement of DAA and Fellow recipients to earlier in the week during NCWSS annual meeting.
Motion: John Hinz forward the motion 'banquet and distinguished achievement awards announcement on Tuesday lunch after general session'; Amit second. The motion was approved by all the members.

Strategic Planning Committee Chair- Sarah Lancaster

- A plan to survey members and stakeholders with regard to potential adjustments to society activities that would add value to members and clients.
Action: Kelly will send a questionnaire to NCWSS members next week, will be open for 4 weeks; couple of reminders will be sent.

Executive Secretary – Kelley Mazur

- Include WSSA harassment language in the NCWSS MOP
Action: Kelley will send a document to Amit and he will add in the MOP
- NCWSS website redesign proposal by Apex Web Studio
Action: More information is provided by Apex; will be discussed by a subcommittee (Kelley Mazur, Joe Ikley and Joe Wuerffel). Will be discussed in July meeting.
- Update on 2021 NCWSS meeting to be held at Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids, MI
Action: In case of cancellation of NCWSS annual meeting in Dec 2021 due to ongoing issues of Covid 19, particularly in MI, Kelley had discussion with the Amway Grand Plaza hotel. Conversation was positive; open for adjustment to move it to next year with no or minimum penalty. No deadline is given so far. Kelley will be in touch and provide update in July BOD meeting.

Vice President Elect- Reid Smeda

- Partnering with Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) and Michigan Invasive Species Coalition (MISC) for joint session(s) at 2021 NCWSS meeting
Action: Reid has discussed with them. He will be in touch with them with further discussion in summer.

Secretary/Treasurer: Amit Jhala

- 2021 NCWSS in-person registration fees: Regular member: \$375; Student: \$125; Honorary members/Fellows: \$225

Resident Education Committee Chair: Devin Hammer

- Potential changes in wording to the MOP regarding the rules for the summer Weeds Contest. The current language in certain places could lead to some confusion, and so the Resident Education Committee and Dr. Joe Ikley have put the following items together:
 1. Amending the “and/or” statement in Chapter 7, Section C, Subsection 3 around site of action and group number and the subsequent amendments to scoring if we include both as requirements for full marks in future contests.
Devin put the motion; Joe W second. Motion approved.
 2. Changing the phrase “mechanism of action” to “site of action” to be consistent with the WSSA definition and classification
Will be discussed later.
 3. Changing the language referencing the “NCWSS Master Herbicide List” to refer to the WSSA-Herbicide Site of Action (SOA) Classification List
 4. The MOP also states that the most current Herbicide Handbook should be used to determine classifications “unless specific exceptions are announced prior to the contest.” I think this language is sufficient as written, but we may need to clearly state and reference the WSSA Classification List in the rules packet ultimately sent out to universities.
Action: Devin will make changes and send it to Amit to add in the MOP.

Graduate Students’ Committee Chair- Edinaldo Borgato; Co Chair- Alexis Meadows

- 1- **Mentoring Program** – Travel Enrichment Experience (TEE): 1 week during the summer, similar to WSSA’s TEE program: Target 3 students/positions. Application and selection process to be defined after we find sponsors; we can probably adapt WSSA’s. Discussion: Find potential sponsors and groups willing to host students for this experience.
Action: Edinaldo will discuss with graduate student committee to come up with a plan about what type of experience students are interested in and will be in touch with Devin Hammer. This topic will be discussed in next BOD meeting with an aim to start this program for summer 2022.

- 2- **NCWSS Mentoring:** Chat/mentoring room with weed scientists, as WWS had in the 2021 meeting, to ask/share experiences. Discussion: Can we find volunteers for this: field scientists, research (applied and basic); people from academia, industry, and government? This will have no cost for the society, except the time of people involved in the organization.
Action: Ednaldo will discuss with graduate student committee if they are interested in a Zoom meeting to be accomplished virtually 2 to 3 times a year.

- 3- **Job Selection/Hiring Process:** Working lunch at the NCWSS 2021 meeting in Grand Rapids, possibly during the student lunch: Lunch sponsor brings a human resources agent and/or hiring managers to talk about job application, interviews (including behavioral), selection; hiring process. Topics can include what makes a candidate competitive, interview processes, etc. Discussion: Is the sponsor willing to do this? This will have no cost for the society.
Action: Corteva is a sponsor of student lunch in 2021 NCWSS meeting. Every 2 to 3 years, it will be important to have a symposium/discussion on this topic.

- 4- **Student Visit in Grand Rapids (tourism):** Try to get the students together for a visit related or not with agriculture. Discussion: Possibilities and suggestions of potential places. NCWSS could sponsor vans to transport students to the visit and back to hotel and meal or find a sponsor.
Action: Considering effect of Covid 19, it will be hard to arrange something like this. Will be discussed for future meetings.

CAST Representative/ Chair of Fellow Awards Committee - John Hinz

- Fellow Awards Committee has two suggestions to amend in the NCWSS MOP: Nominator must be a member of the NCWSS. NCWSS Fellow Award Committee members are not eligible to nominate or write support letter(s)
Action: This was approved in March BOD meeting. Amit will add following paragraph in NCWSS MOP.
“Nominations will be received from active members of NCWSS. Members of the Fellows Committee are ineligible to make nominations but are urged to actively encourage other Society members to submit nominations.”

Vice President-Program Chair - David Simpson

- Update/Discussion of NCWSS annual meeting in Grand Rapids, MI Dec 13-16, 2021.
Action: Information is included on NCWSS website: <http://ncwss.org/annual-meeting>. Nick Arneson, Chair of Extension Committee discussed how best we can improve student participants in video contest. Video contest will be considered same as NCWSS poster/paper contests and students will have to submit the title information. All videos will be shown in Extension Section of paper presentation. Depending on number of video submission, students can be asked to answer questions after each video run.

Next NCWSS BOD meeting will be held via Zoom on July 23, 2021. Amit will send a Zoom link.